

Programme Specification

MSc in Rural Land and Business Management

For students entering in September 2019

PFTRURLANDM

This document sets out key information about your Programme and forms part of your Terms and Conditions with the University of Reading.

Awarding Institution	University of Reading
Teaching Institution	University of Reading
Length of Programme	72 months
Accreditation	RICS
Programme Start Dates	September

Programme information and content

The MSc Rural Land and Business programme – accredited by the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors and recognised by the Central Association of Agricultural Valuers – aims to prepare students for a career in rural surveying. It is designed to equip graduates with an understanding of the economic, technological, legal and social concepts and principles that govern the management of our countryside and the techniques that apply to the management of agricultural and other rural businesses, a critical awareness of current issues and challenges affecting the rural sector, and the strategic decision-making skills that are needed to undertake a career in rural land and business management at the highest level. It draws on the academic strengths of Real Estate and Planning (REP) at the University of Reading and the expertise of rural practitioners to deliver a flexible and challenging programme, highly relevant to the changing demands of modern business. REP enjoys excellent relationships with neighbouring landowners and, wherever possible, teaching is augmented by site visits to farms and rural estates to demonstrate the practical application of taught content, as well as providing sites for real-life case studies.

The programme is suitable both for graduates with a good first degree in a cognate subject (such as Agriculture, Agricultural Economics, Farm Business Management, Rural Resource Management, Economics, Geography), and those with a non-cognate degree and evidence of relevant work experience.

Module information

The programme comprises of 180 credits, allocated across a range of compulsory and optional modules. Compulsory modules are listed.

Compulsory Modules:

Module	Name	Credits	Level
REMREE	Real Estate Economics	10	7

REMF47	Business and Professional Values	10	7
REMRPLV	Rural Property Law and Valuation	20	7
REMRSAM	Strategic Rural Asset Management	20	7
REMRARI	Introduction to Agriculture and Rural Industries	20	7
REMRPP	Rural Policy and Planning	10	7
REMMCS	Management Case Studies in Rural Surveying	20	7
REMRFT	Rural Field Trip	10	7
REMDISS40	Dissertation	40	7

Compulsory text:

Students will select 20 credits of option modules available in Real Estate or Agriculture.

Part-time or flexible modular arrangements

The programme is currently offered in full-time mode only.

Additional costs of the programme

Students will take part in a Rural Field Trip. The trip will commence at the University of Reading. Students are expected to pay for some meals and all drinks during the trip. Accommodation and travel will be provided.

There is a required text book for module REMRPLV which will cost approximately £40 to purchase.

A range of resources to support your curriculum, including textbooks, electronic resources and computer facilities, are available through the Central Library and the Business School Academic Resource Centre.

Printing and photocopying facilities are available on campus at a cost per A4 page of £0.05 (black and white) and £0.30 (colour). Essential costs in this area will be low as most coursework is submitted electronically. Costs are indicative and may vary according to optional modules chosen and are subject to inflation and other price fluctuations.

The estimates were calculated in 2018.

Optional modules:

The optional modules available can vary from year to year. An indicative list of the range of optional modules for your Programme is set out in the Further Programme Information. Details of any additional costs associated with the optional modules, will be made available to you prior to the beginning of the programme. Entry to optional modules will be at the discretion of the University and subject to availability. Although the University tries to ensure you are able to take the optional modules in which you have expressed interest this cannot be guaranteed.

Placement opportunities

There are no placements available on this programme.

Teaching and learning delivery:

Assessment is by a combination of unseen written examinations and coursework in the form of individual and group assignments including applied problem solving, essays, literature reviews, reports and presentations, as indicated in the module descriptors. The formal examinations take place at the start of the summer term each year.

Students are encouraged to work towards their individual dissertation in the spring term; the third term and the summer period comprise further research and writing stages of the dissertation. Students are expected to spend approximately 400 hours study time on researching and writing the dissertation. Total study hours for your programme will be 1800 hours. The contact hours for your programme will depend upon your module combination; an average for a typical set of modules on this programme is 383 hours. In addition to your scheduled contact hours, you will be expected to undertake guided independent study. Information about module contact hours and the amount of independent study which a student is normally expected to undertake for a module is indicated in the relevant module description.

Accreditation details

The Masters degree programme is included within the University/Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) partnership arrangement and graduates are able to enter the RICS APC two year programme leading to professional membership of the RICS.

Assessment

Students may be assessed by a range of methods including individual and group assignments, essays, literature reviews, reports, presentations and examinations.

Progression

Part-time and modular progression requirements

The flexibility of the programme means that there are no stages or parts to the degree. Students work towards the Masters qualification by fulfilling requirements for the 180 credits.

Classification

The University's taught postgraduate marks classification is as follows:

Mark Interpretation

70 - 100% Distinction

60 - 69% Merit

50 - 59% Good standard (Pass)

Failing categories:

40 - 49% Work below threshold standard

0 - 39% Unsatisfactory Work

For Masters Degree

To qualify for **Distinction**, students must

- (i) gain an overall average of 70 or more over 180 credits; and
- (ii) a mark of 60 or more for the dissertation; and
- (iii) the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits; and
- (iv) students must not have any mark below 40.

To qualify for **Merit**, students must

- (i) gain an overall average of 60 or more over 180 credits; and
- (ii) a mark of 50 or more for the dissertation; and
- (iii) the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits; and
- (iv) students must not have any mark below 40.

To qualify for **Passed**, students must

- (i) gain an overall average of 50 or more over 180 credits; and
- (ii) a mark of 50 or more for the dissertation; and
- (iii) the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits; and
- (iv) the total credit value of all modules marked below 40 must not exceed 30 credits.

For PG Diploma

To qualify for **Distinction**, students must

- (i) gain an overall average of 70 or more over 120 credits; and
- (ii) In addition, the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits; and
- (iii) students must not have any mark below 40.

To qualify for **Merit**, students must

- (i) gain an overall average of 60 or more over 120 credits; and
- (ii) the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits; and
- (iii) students must not have any mark below 40.

To qualify for **Passed**, students must

- (i) gain an overall average of 50 or more over 120 credits; and
- (ii) the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits; and
- (iii) the total credit value of all modules marked below 40 must not exceed 30 credits.

For PG Certificate

To qualify for a **Postgraduate Certificate**, students must

- (i) gain an overall average of 50 or more over 60 credits; and

(ii) the total credit value of all modules marked below 40 must not exceed 10 credits.